

Appl. No. 10/719,148
Amtd. Dated January 12, 2006
Reply to Office action of October 12, 2005

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A four-stroke engine comprising:
a crankcase;
a crankshaft supported for rotation within the crankcase;
an oil reservoir located within the crankcase; and
means for vibrating the crankcase to mist oil from the oil reservoir to lubricate engine components, wherein the means for vibrating the crankcase includes a vibration mechanism coupled to a portion of the crankcase.
2. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the means for vibrating the crankcase includes the crankcase having a wall thickness of about 1.5 mm.
3. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the means for vibrating the crankcase includes the crankcase having a wall thickness of less than 1.5 mm.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously presented) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the vibration mechanism is a vibration plate.
6. (Previously presented) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the vibration mechanism is a vibration spring.
7. (Previously presented) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the vibration mechanism is coupled to a bottom portion of the crankcase.
8. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein a clearance area located in the crankcase is less than 10 mm.

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9. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein a clearance area located in the crankcase is about 1.5 mm.
10. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein a clearance area located in the crankcase facilitates splashing of the oil against a counterweight.
11. (Previously presented) A four-stroke engine comprising:
a crankcase;
a crankshaft supported for rotation within the crankcase;
an oil reservoir located within the crankcase; and
means for misting oil from the oil reservoir without the use of an oil dipper,
wherein the means for misting oil includes providing a clearance area in the crankcase which is less than 10 mm such that a surface ripple in the oil reservoir splashes against a counterweight in the engine.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Previously presented) The four-stroke engine of claim 11, wherein the clearance area is about 1.5 mm.
15. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 11, wherein the means for misting oil from the oil reservoir includes utilizing engine vibration to produce a ripple in a surface of the oil.
16. (Original) The four-stroke engine of claim 15, further comprising a vibration mechanism coupled to the crankcase to amplify the ripple.
- 17-19. (Cancelled)
20. (New) The four-stroke engine of claim 1, wherein the vibration mechanism is mounted on the crankcase.